PATENT APPLICATION Our Docket No. 970663.CNC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App

Gheng Zhang et al.

February 24, 2003

Serial No.

09/206,329

Group Art Unit 3762

Filed

December 8, 1998

Exam. George Evanisko

For

AUTOCAPTURE PACING/SENSING

CONFIGURATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of this continuing application, it is requested that this paper be answered and considered. The shortened-statutory period for response was set to expire in three months or on January 22, 2003. Accordingly, a request for a one-month extension is enclosed to extend that deadline until today, February 24, 2003.

Please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 29, 30, 32 and 33 as follows:

(Five Times Amended) A cardiac pacing system for use with unipolar or bipolar atrial and ventricular pacing and sensing leads, said cardiac pacing system including:

(a) an atrial lead having atrial electrodes comprising an atrial tip electrode and an atrial ring electrode electrically coupled thereto;